GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5114
ANSWERED ON:27.08.2001
CLOSURE OF MINES IN RAJASTHAN
JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of mines closed down in Rajasthan in compliance with the orders of the Ministry of Environment and Forests;

(b) whether the Government are making efforts to restart mining activities in the closed mines;

(c) whether the Government are formulating any scheme for development of marble quarriers; and

(d) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY MINES (SHRI JAYSINGRAO GAIKWAD PATIL)

(a) & (b): As per the information furnished by the State Government of Rajasthan, 2346 mines were closedin Rajasthan in compliance with the orders of Ministry of Environment and Forests. However, in most of the cases mining activities have been restarted after diversification of forest land with the approval of Ministry of Environment and Forests.

(c) & (d): Marble is a minor mineral defined under Section 3(e) of the Mines and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957. State Governments are empowered to frame their ownMinor Mineral Concession Rules for regulating the grant/renewal of minor minerals including marble. The Central Governmenthas constituted a Group on Marble Developmenton 22nd September, 1999, whose terms of reference, iner-alia, includes; to assess and review periodically the status of marble quarries and recommend measures for speedy development of the mineral.